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Letter dated 24 October 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the appointment of my Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan effective 1 August 2011 to assist the parties in reaching a negotiated settlement of the residual Comprehensive Peace Agreement and post-secession issues after the closure of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan in 2011.

In addition to the recent progress in the South Sudan peace process, the rapprochement between Eritrea and Ethiopia has created positive momentum for peace and security in the Horn of Africa and beyond. We expect that the dialogue initiated between Djibouti and Eritrea will facilitate the resolution of the remaining challenges in their relationship. As regional leaders embark on efforts to sustain recent gains and to open a new chapter of cooperation, they will need the support and assistance of the international community. Our consultation with them has shown that the interrelated political and security dynamics in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea have far-reaching implications for the security and prosperity of the broader region.

In view of the above, I have decided to expand the remit of the Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan to cover the Horn of Africa region, defined for this purpose to comprise the members of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). By doing so, the new responsibilities of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa will be in line with the framework for cooperation between the United Nations and IGAD signed in Djibouti on 17 November 2015. The Special Envoy will also work in close collaboration with the African Union High-level Implementation Panel for Sudan, allowing for closer and streamlined collaboration among the United Nations, the African Union and IGAD.

In addition to the functions thus far performed by the Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan, the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa will have the following additional functions:

(a) Work closely with, support and assist IGAD and other relevant subregional and regional organizations in consolidating recent gains in peace and security, and enhance subregional capacities to address cross-border and cross-cutting issues;

(b) Carry out good offices and special assignments on behalf of the Secretary-General, and, in cooperation with IGAD and other regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, enhance subregional capacities for conflict prevention and mediation;

(c) Complement the capacity of the Department of Political Affairs to advise the Secretary-General and other senior United Nations officials on matters relating to

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peace and security in the region and the role that the United Nations can play in support of regional initiatives and efforts;

(d) Enhance linkages in the work of the United Nations and other partners in the subregion, with a view to promoting a joined-up regional approach and facilitating coordination and information exchange within the United Nations system, with due regard to the specific mandates of United Nations organizations as well as peacekeeping operations and special political missions; and

(e) Report to Headquarters on developments of subregional significance that are of interest and concern to the United Nations.

The staffing and other requirements for the Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa will be met through existing resources.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) António **Guterres**